

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A flexible fluid containment vessel for the transportation and/or containment of cargo comprising a fluid or fluidisable material, said vessel comprising:
 - an elongated flexible tubular structure comprised of fabric having a first side and a second side;
 - said tubular structure being impervious and having a front end and a rear end;
 - means for sealing said front end and said rear end;
 - means for filling and emptying said vessel of cargo; and
 - means for rendering said tubular structure buoyant comprising forming said fabric having at least one thermoplastic or thermoset coating that renders the fabric buoyant,

wherein a first thermoplastic or thermoset coating is on said first side of the fabric and a second thermoplastic or thermoset coating is on said second side of the fabric with said first thermoplastic or thermoset coating being different from said second thermoplastic or thermoset coating with said coatings being taken from the group consisting essentially of polyurethanes, polyester, polyamide, polyvinyl chloride, polyolefins, synthetic and natural rubbers, polyureas, silicone polymers, acrylic polymers or foam derivatives thereof or other suitable thermoplastic or thermoset material.

2. (Previously Presented) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said fabric is woven and said first and second sides are formed by stitching points.

3. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said fabric is formed out of yarns, and said at least one thermoplastic or thermoset coating is subject to heat, pressure or both to cause it to flow and fill voids in said fabric.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said ~~means for rendering said tubular structure buoyant comprises coating one or both sides said fabric with a coating having~~ one or both coatings have microspheres therein in a sufficient amount that the overall density of the coated fabric is less than approximately 1.0 g/cm^3 .

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein said ~~means for rendering said tubular structure buoyant comprises coating one or both sides said fabric with a coating having~~ one or both coatings have a gas or entrained thereon ~~air in the coating~~ such that the gas or air is trapped therein ~~within the coating~~ in sufficient amount that the overall density of the coated fabric is less than approximately 1.0 g/cm^3 .

9. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 8 wherein the coating is applied to the fabric by spraying or in the form of a foam.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The vessel in accordance with claim 1 wherein the fabric includes fibers or yarns made from material consisting essentially of ultra high molecular weight polyethylene, or polyolefins; and the means for rendering said tubular structure buoyant comprises coating said fabric with a polyurethane material.

13. (Original) The vessel in accordance with claim 12 wherein said coating is a thermoset polyurethane coating.